

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /073 W

----- 068433

R 071215Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9256

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

UNCLAS PHNOM PENH 2405

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR MARR CB US

SUBJ: GOVERNMENT PRESS TAKES AIM AT CONGRESSIONAL AID FOES

REF : PHNOM PENH 2127

1. REFLECTING A RISING SENTIMENT IN THE VERNACULAR PRESS (REFTTEL), FRENCH LANGUAGE SEMI-OFFICIAL DAILY LE REPUBLICAIN HAS CRITICIZED SOME CONGRESSIONAL FOES OF SUPPLEMENTAL AID TO CAMBODIA FOR BASING THEIR OPPOSITION ON PARTISAN POLITICS. THE DAILY ALSO ASSERTS THAT INSUFFICIENT AID TO INDOCHINA WILL "PROVOKE A DISEQUILIBRIUM OF POLITICAL FORCES IN OUR REGION" AND EXPRESSES CONFIDENCE THAT THE OPPONENTS OF AID WILL COME TO ACKNOWLEDGE "A CERTAIN SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY INCUMBENT ON A GREAT POWER". THE EDITORIAL NOTES THAT THOSE SENATORS WHO HAVE RECENTLY COME TO SEE FOR THEMSELVES (THURMOND AND SCOTT) HAVE RETURNED HOME AS ALL-OUT SUPPORTERS OF AID TO CAMBODIA AND EXPRESSES THE CONVICTION THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, "DESPITE JSISPBSION AND THE ENERGY CRISIS WILL REMEMBER THOSE WHO ARE NOW UNDERGOING GREATER SUFFERING AND WHO WILL SUFFER STILL MORE WITHOUT AMERICAN AID AND ASSISTANCE."

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2. A NATIONAB ASSEMBLY DEPUTY, WRITING IN THE SAME ISSUE, TREATS OPPONENTS OF AID MORE GENTLY, AS HE RECOGNIZES THAT LEGISLATORS HAVE THE DUTY TO GUARD THEIR COUNTRIES' INTERESTS AND TREASURY. THE KHMER LEGISLATOR DIFFIDENTLY SUGGESTS, HOWEVER, THAT A LOOK AT THE REALITIES MAKES IT CLEAR THAT PHNOM PENH IS "NEITHER THE INSTIGATOR NOR THE AGGRESSOR" OF THE ONGOING HOSTILITIES. IN FACT,

IMPARTIAL OBSERVERS AGREE THAT THE GKR "HAS OPENLY UNDERTAKEN MAY EFFORTS FOR PEACE" TO WHICH THE COMMUNISTS HAVE REPLIED WITH "EVER INCREASING USE OF FORCE... GREATLY AIDED BY COMMUNIST POWERS WHO HAVE NOT STOPPED SENDING THEM FUNDS AND WAR MATERIAL...." THE DEPUTY CONTINUES THAT THE AMERICAN POLICY OF DISENGAGEMENT FROM INDOCHINA IS WELL-KNOWN, BUT HE MAINTAINS THAT THIS POLICY "SHOULD NEVERTHELESS BE UNERTAKEN WITH HONOR, AS A FUNCTION OF THE SITUATION THE COMMUNISTS HAVE WILFULLY PROVOKED9" THE \$222 MILLION FOR CAMBODIA IS FAR FROM ENOUGH FOR PHNOM PENH TO DEAL WITH THEIR AGGRESSION, THE DEPUTY CONCLUDES, BUT IT IS SUBSTANTIAL AND WILL COVER THE MOST URGENT NEEDS.

3. COMMENT: BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE PRESS HAVE SHARPLY INCREASED ARTICLES AND EDITORIALS ON US SUPPLEMENTARY ASSISTANCE AS THEY COME TO REALIZE THAT THE AID REQUEST IS HAVING A TOUGH FIGHT.  
DEAN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 07 FEB 1975  
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**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Subject:** GOVERNMENT PRESS TAKES AIM AT CONGRESSIONAL AID FOES  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MARR, CB, US  
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